

CEO Roger Snoble introduces prototype transit coach at the "CompoBus" rollout event at the NABI manufacturing plant. Also pictured: MTA Director Frank Roberts, left; and at right, Sen. Richard C. Shelby (R-Ala.)



Photo courtesy of North American Bus Industries, Inc.

'CompoBus' Debuts in Alabama; Now En Route to California

(Dec. 4, 2003) A prototype transit coach that will become a featured element of the Metro Bus fleet was introduced with much fanfare, Monday, during ceremonies in Anniston, Ala.

CEO Roger Snoble and MTA Director Frank Roberts joined Sen. Richard C. Shelby (R-Ala.), Congressman Mike Rogers (R-3rd.), local officials and company executives for the "CompoBus" rollout event at the NABI manufacturing plant.

The "CompoBus" is a 45-foot, CNG low-floor coach with contoured windshields and a stylish retro look. It has a lighter-weight, crash-resistant fiberglass composite body that is impervious to rust and corrosion.



The "CompoBus" prototype, now en route to California from Alabama, has contoured windshields and a retro look.

The two-axle bus will seat 46 passengers, six more passengers than can be seated on a standard 40-foot, low-floor bus. "There is substantially more interior space than found on current 40-foot models," says Mike Bottone, director, Metro Vehicle Technology.

The prototype will arrive, Dec. 8, at NABI's Upland, Calif., facility for a month of tests by MTA's Universal Fare Systems and ATMS teams, as well as the operations training and maintenance training groups.

MTA has a contract to buy 100 CompoBuses from NABI. The first 30 units of the order are due to be delivered in May, 2004. The first buses are expected to go into service in June on the Metro Rapid lines.

"We see tremendous potential in the CompoBus," says Deputy CEO John Catoe. "We're adding capacity while saving weight, a rare combination in bus manufacturing."

[Back to MTA Report](#)